Book Review

Sydney E. Salmona
Clinics in Haematology, vol. 11, No. 1
Myeloma and Related Disorders
Saunders, Eastbourne 1982 VII + 238 pp.; E 10.75, bound ISSN 0308-2261
Within the 238 pages of this very legible text the authors have presented a broad, yet concise
review of the current concepts of myeloma in the clinic and in the laboratory.
The clinician concerned with the treatment of myeloma patients is provided with guidelines in
distinguishing between disease categories requiring systemic treatment, the localized and
extramedullary plasmacytomas best treated locally and those with monoclonal gammopathy of
undetermined significance (MGUS) probably best not treated at all initially. The prognosis and
therapeutic results to be expected for these various types of presentation are taken from the
authors own experience and cooperative group studies. Insight into the future prospects of
treatment are given not only for currently available
cytostatic agents, but also for interferon as well as in vitro cloning and chemosensitivity. Such
prospects are also hinted at in the chapter on immunoregulatory circuits in myeloma.
Those seeking fundamental information regarding the pathogenic mechanisms involved in the
frequent complications of this disease such as infection and humoral immunoinssufficiency,
hypercalcemia, and renal insufficiency will be rewarded. The chapter on amyloidosis depicts this
disease in its various forms as to clinical presentation, diagnosis, laboratory findings, and
therapeutic possibilities.
Last but not least, the chapter on plasma cell neoplasms and acute leukemia places the
connection of these two entities in its proper perspective according to present-day knowledge
and experience. The possible role of cytostatic treatment in this relationship, either direct or
indirect, is discussed in detail.
This book provides the student of this disease in
any or all of its aspects with enjoyable and informa
tive reading. The ample list of references with each
chapter should more than satisfy all readers requir
ing more detail. R. Sonntag, Bern
Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 1-7, 1984 President: Prof. L.J. Bergna

Enquiries: Secretariat, 7th Meeting ISH, OTAC, S.A., Congress Organization, Sepúlveda 45-47,
Barcelona-15 (Spain).
Enquiries: XXth Congress of the International Society of Haematology, Congress Secretariat,
Pacheco de Melo 43081, 1425 Buenos Aires (Argentina).